IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

N RE APPLICATION OF

Monika OSWALD, et al.

: EXAMINER: STEIN

SERIAL NO: 10/045,049

: GROUP ART UNIT: 1775

FOR: A LAYER OBTAINED FROM AN AQUEOUS DISPERSION CONTAINING A

SILICON/TITANIUM MIXED OXIDE POWDER PREPARED BY FLAME-

HYDROLYSIS

FILED: JANUARY 15, 2002

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

In response to the Office Action mailed on January 8, 2003, Applicants request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following amendment and remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1-8 and insert therefor the following new claims:

9. (New) A layer, wherein the layer is obtained by thermal treatment from an aqueous dispersion applied to a substrate, the dispersion containing a silicon/titanium mixed oxide powder prepared by flame hydrolysis and the titanium dioxide content of the powder is between 2 and 20 wt.%.

10. (New) The layer as claimed in claim 9, wherein the thickness of the layer is between 100 nm and 1 mm.

8.8

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